25

5

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An advertisement information providing system comprising a distribution module, including:

a registration accepting device which accepts registration of advertisement information to be output as advertisement from outside;

a related information generating device which generates advertisement related information necessary for distributing said advertisement information based on said registered advertisement information;

a distribution information generating device which generates any one of distribution information composed of only said generated advertisement related information and said advertisement information corresponding to the generated advertisement related information or distribution information consisting of only said advertisement related information, said advertisement information corresponding to the advertisement related information and subsidiary information subsidiary to the advertisement information; and

an outputting device which outputs said generated distribution information to a transmitting medium, and

an output module including:

said transmitting medium for distributing said output distribution information to a plurality of output modules;

an obtaining device which obtains said output distribution information from said transmitting medium; and

an information outputting device which outputs said advertisement information included in said obtained distribution information.

2. The advertisement information providing system according to claim 1,

25

5

wherein said output module further includes a request generating device which generates distribution request information indicating said advertisement information desired to be output and outputs to said distribution module through said transmitting medium and said outputting device in said distribution module outputs said distribution information containing said advertisement information indicated by the distribution request information to said output module which outputs the distribution request information through said transmitting medium based on said output distribution request information.

3. The advertisement information providing system according to claim 1, wherein said output module further includes:

a voting accepting device which accepts a voting for ranking said output advertisement information; and

a voting outputting device which outputs voting information indicating the content of said accepted voting to said distribution module through said transmitting medium, and

said distribution module further includes:

a ranking device which ranks each said advertisement information based on said output voting information and generates ranking information; and

a ranking distribution device which distributes said generated ranking information to each said output module.

4. The advertisement information providing system according to claim 3, wherein said ranking device ranks each said advertisement information based on at least any one of said output voting information and the number of distributions to said output module and generating said ranking information.

1000 10 1 1021 | 1 10 11 11 1 E 1 I

5

5. The advertisement information providing system according to claim 3, wherein said distribution module includes:

a new matter accumulating device which accumulates all pieces of said advertisement information registered newly; and

a upper rank accumulating device which accumulates only pieces of said advertisement information having higher rank than a predetermined rank, and

said distribution information generating device in said distribution module generates said distribution information using said advertisement information accumulated in said upper rank accumulating device and said new matter accumulating device.

- 6. The advertisement information providing system according to claim 5, wherein said output device in said distribution module outputs said advertisement information registered newly only in a period preliminarily set up since the new matter registration irrespective of the rank order of said advertisement information indicated by said ranking information so that it can be distributed to said output module.
- 7. The advertisement information providing system according to claim 3, wherein said registration accepting device in said distribution module includes a registration fee accepting device which accepts only payment of registration fee which should be paid by an advertiser who distributes said advertisement information to each said output module based on said ranking.
- 25 8. The advertisement information providing system according to claim 7, wherein said registration accepting device in said distribution module accepts payment of re-registration fee which should be paid when said advertisement

information removed from accumulation in said upper rank accumulating device is re-registered as well as payment of registration fee which should be paid by an advertiser who distributes said advertisement information to each said output module based on said ranking.

5

- 9. The advertisement information providing system according to claim 1, wherein said advertisement information is composed of plural languages.
- 10. The advertisement information providing system according to claim 1, wherein said distribution module includes:

a catalog accumulating device which accumulates catalog information indicating an object of said advertisement information; and

a catalog information output device which outputs said catalog information indicated by the catalog review request information based on catalog review request information transmitted from said output module to said output module which transmits said catalog review request information through said transmitting medium, and

said output module includes:

a catalog review request information generating device which generates said catalog review request information indicating said catalog information desired to be reviewed;

a catalog review request information output device which outputs said generated catalog review request information to said distribution module through said transmitting medium; and

25

20

an output module catalog information outputting device which outputs catalog information output by said catalog information output device.

25

5

11. The distribution module contained in the advertisement information providing system described in claim 1, including at least:

said registration accepting device; said related information generating device; said distribution information generating device; and said output device.

- An information recording medium in which a distribution program which makes a distribution computer included in said distribution module in the advertisement information providing system containing the distribution module for outputting advertisement information output as advertisement to the transmitting medium and the output module for acquiring the output advertisement information from said transmitting medium and outputting, function as:
- a registration accepting device which accepts registration of advertisement information from outside;
- a related information generating device which generates advertisement related information necessary for distributing said advertisement information based on said registered advertisement information;
- a distribution information generating device which generates any one of distribution information composed of only said generated advertisement related information and said advertisement information corresponding to the advertisement related information and distribution information consisting of only said advertisement related information, said advertisement information corresponding to the advertisement related information and subsidiary information subsidiary to the advertisement information; and

an outputting device which outputs said generated distribution

25

5

information to a transmitting medium, is recorded readably by said distribution computer.

- 13. An information recording medium according to claim 12, in which said distribution program which makes said distribution computer functioning as said output device, function to output said distribution information containing said advertisement information indicated by the distribution request information based on the distribution request information indicating said advertisement information output from said output module and desired to be output from the output module to said output module outputting the distribution request information through said transmitting medium, is recorded readably by said distribution computer.
- 14. The information recording medium according to claim 12, in which said distribution program which makes said distribution computer function as:
- a ranking device which ranks each piece of said advertisement information based on voting information output from said output module and indicating the content of voting for ranking each said advertisement information, and generates the ranking information; and
- a ranking distribution device which distributes said generated ranking information to each said output module.
- 15. The information recording medium according to claim 14, in which said distribution program which makes said distribution computer functioning as said ranking device, function to rank each piece of said advertisement information based on at least any one of said output voting information and the number of distributions to said output module and generate said ranking information, is

25

5

recorded readably by said distribution computer.

16. The information recording medium according to claim 14, wherein said distribution module includes:

a new matter accumulating device which accumulates all pieces of said advertisement information registered newly; and

a upper rank accumulating device which accumulates only pieces of said advertisement information having higher rank than a predetermined rank, based on said ranking information, and

said distribution program which makes said distribution computer functioning as said distribution information generating device to generate said distribution information using said advertisement information accumulated both in said upper rank accumulating device and said new matter accumulating device.

- 17. The information recording medium according to claim 16, wherein said distribution program which makes said distribution computer functioning as said output device, function to output said advertisement information registered newly only in a period preliminarily set up since the new matter registration irrespective of the rank order of said advertisement information indicated by said ranking information so that it can be distributed to said output module, is recorded readably by said distribution computer.
- 18. The information recording medium according to claim 14, wherein said distribution program which makes said distribution computer functioning as said registration accepting device function as a registration fee accepting device which accepts only payment of registration fee which should be paid by an advertiser who distributes said advertisement information to each said output module based

25

. 5

on said ranking, is recorded readably by said distribution computer.

- 19. The information recording medium according to claim 18, wherein said distribution program which makes said distribution computer functioning as said registration accepting device function to accept payment of re-registration fee which should be paid when said advertisement information removed from accumulation in said upper rank accumulating device is re-registered as well as payment of registration fee which should be paid by an advertiser who distributes said advertisement information to each said output module based on said ranking, is recorded readably by said distribution computer.
- 20. The information recording medium according to claim 12, wherein said distribution program in which said advertisement information is composed of plural languages, is recorded readably by said distribution computer.
- 21. The information recording medium according to claim 12, wherein said distribution module further includes a catalog accumulating device which accumulates catalog information indicating an object of said advertisement information and said distribution program which makes said distribution computer function as a catalog information output device which outputs said catalog information indicated by said catalog review request information based on the catalog review request information indicating said catalog information transmitted from said output module and desired to be reviewed to said output module which transmits said catalog review request information through said transmitting medium, is recorded readably by said distribution computer.
- 22. A distribution program which makes a distribution computer included in

25

5

said distribution module in the advertisement information providing system containing the distribution module for outputting advertisement information output as advertisement to the transmitting medium and the output module for acquiring the output advertisement information from said transmitting medium and outputting, function as:

a registration accepting device which accepts registration of advertisement information from outside;

a related information generating device which generates advertisement related information necessary for distributing said advertisement information based on said registered advertisement information;

a distribution information generating device which generates any one of distribution information composed of only said generated advertisement related information and said advertisement information corresponding to the advertisement related information and distribution information consisting of only said advertisement related information, said advertisement information corresponding to the advertisement related information and subsidiary information subsidiary to the advertisement information; and

an outputting device which outputs said generated distribution information to a transmitting medium.

- 23. An advertisement information providing method to be executed by said distribution module in the advertisement information providing system containing the distribution module for outputting advertisement information output as advertisement to the transmitting medium and the output module for acquiring the output advertisement information from said transmitting medium and outputting, said advertisement information providing method comprising:
 - a registration accepting process which accepts registration of

25

5

advertisement information from outside;

a related information generating process which generates advertisement related information necessary for distributing said advertisement information based on said registered advertisement information;

a distribution information generating process which generates any one of distribution information composed of only said generated advertisement related information and said advertisement information corresponding to the advertisement related information and distribution information consisting of only said advertisement related information, said advertisement information corresponding to the advertisement related information and subsidiary information subsidiary to the advertisement information; and

an outputting process which outputs said generated distribution information to a transmitting medium.

- 24. The advertisement information providing method according to claim 23, wherein said output process outputs said distribution information containing said advertisement information indicated by the distribution request information to said output module outputting the distribution request information through said transmitting medium based on the distribution request information indicating said advertisement information output from said output module and desired to be output from the output module.
- 25. The advertisement information providing method according to claim 23, further comprising:
- a ranking process which ranks each piece of said advertisement information based on voting information output from said output module and indicating the content of voting for ranking each said advertisement information;

and

5

a ranking distribution process which distributes said generated ranking information to each said output module.

- 26. The advertisement information providing method according to claim 25, wherein said ranking process ranks each piece of said advertisement information based on at least any one of said output voting information and the number of distributions to said output module and generates said ranking information.
 - 27. The advertisement information providing method according to claim 25, wherein said distribution module includes:

a new matter accumulating device which accumulates all pieces of said advertisement information registered newly; and

a upper rank accumulating device which accumulates only pieces of said advertisement information having higher rank than a predetermined rank, and said distribution information generating process generates said distribution information using said advertisement information accumulated both in said upper rank accumulating device and said new matter accumulating device.

- 20 28. The advertisement information providing method according to claim 27, wherein said output process output said advertisement information registered newly only in a period preliminarily set up since the new matter registration irrespective of the rank order of said advertisement information indicated by said ranking information so that it can be distributed to said output module.
 - 29. The advertisement information providing method according to claim 25, wherein said registration accepting process accepts only payment of registration

5

fee which should be paid by an advertiser who distributes said advertisement information to each said output module based on said ranking.

- 30. The advertisement information providing method according to claim 29, wherein said registration accepting process accept payment of re-registration fee which should be paid when said advertisement information removed from accumulation in said upper rank accumulating device is re-registered as well as payment of registration fee which should be paid by an advertiser who distributes said advertisement information to each said output module based on said ranking.
- The advertisement information providing method according to claim 23, wherein said advertisement information is composed of plural languages.
- 32. The advertisement information providing method according to claim 23, wherein said distribution module further includes a catalog accumulating device which accumulates catalog information indicating an object of said advertisement information, said advertisement information providing method further comprising a catalog information output process which outputs said catalog information indicated by said catalog review request information based on the catalog review request information indicating said catalog information transmitted from said output module and desired to be reviewed to said output module which transmits said catalog review request information through said transmitting medium.
- 25 33. A distribution module for distributing advertisement information indicated at a consumer terminal as advertisement to said consumer terminal through a transmitting medium, comprising:

25

5

a registration accepting device which accepts registration of advertisement information from outside;

a distribution information generating device which generates distribution information to be distributed to said consumer terminal based on said registered advertisement information;

a display device which displays a plurality of said generated distribution information pieces such that they are capable of being reviewed from said consumer terminal through said transmitting medium and distributed through said transmitting medium; and

a distributing device for based on a distribution request from said consumer terminal, distributing said distribution information corresponding to said distribution request to the consumer terminal which outputs the distribution request through said transmitting medium.

- 34. The distribution module according to claim 33, wherein said display device displays at least a representative image of said distribution information to be displayed.
- 35. An information recording medium in which a distribution program which makes a distribution computer included in a distribution module for distributing advertisement information indicated at a consumer terminal as advertisement to said consumer terminal through a transmitting medium, function as:
- a registration accepting device which accepts registration of advertisement information from outside;
- a distribution information generating device which generates distribution information to be distributed to said consumer terminal based on said registered advertisement information;

25

5

a display device which displays a plurality of said generated distribution information pieces such that they are capable of being reviewed from said consumer terminal through said transmitting medium and distributed through said transmitting medium; and

a distributing device for based on a distribution request from said consumer terminal, distributing said distribution information corresponding to said distribution request to the consumer terminal which outputs the distribution request through said transmitting medium,

is recorded readably by said distribution computer.

36. A distribution program which makes a distribution computer included in a distribution module for distributing advertisement information indicated at a consumer terminal as advertisement to said consumer terminal through a transmitting medium function as:

a registration accepting device which accepts registration of advertisement information from outside;

a distribution information generating device which generates distribution information to be distributed to said consumer terminal based on said registered advertisement information;

a display device which displays a plurality of said generated distribution information pieces such that they are capable of being reviewed from said consumer terminal through said transmitting medium and distributed through said transmitting medium; and

a distributing device for based on a distribution request from said consumer terminal, distributing said distribution information corresponding to said distribution request to the consumer terminal which outputs the distribution request through said transmitting medium.